Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 00196 180501Z ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 ONY-00 /010 W ------180503Z 074357 /13

O 180359Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2586 INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY AMEMBASSY SUVA IMMEDIATE

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EA ONLY FOR NELSON FROM IMUS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, OTRA (IMUS, RICHARD H.)
SUBJECT: AID TEAM VISIT TO SOUTH PACIFIC: TRAVEL OF AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL JAMES BULLION

REF: STATE 010555

1. REGARDING BULLION TRAVEL, MY UNDERSTANDING WITH HIM IN WASHINGTON WAS THAT HE WOULD MEET WITH STATE/AID TEAM IN APIA FEBRUARY 7-8 TO PARTICIPATE IN TEAM'S TECHNICAL PL-480 DISCUSSIONS THERE. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY EDMOND APPROVED OF BULLION'S VISIT PROVIDED THAT IT WAS CONCURRENT WITH STATE/AID TEAM. SUBSEQUENTLY BULLION PLANNED TO PROCEED TO NEW ZEALAND TO BRIEF AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE HERE ON DETAILS OF OUR PL-480 PROPOSAL FOR WESTERN SAMOA.

2. DURING OUR DISCUSSIONS BULLION MADE NO MENTION OF VISITING TONGA OR FIJI AND I AM UNAWARE OF WHAT BUSINESS HE COULD HAVE IN THOSE PLACES. I WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THOROUGHLY CONCUR WITH VIEW PARA 2 REFTEL THAT TONGAN VISIT NOT REPEAT NOT BE APPROVED AS BEING LIKELY TO RAISE EXPECTATIONS FOLLOWING SO CLOSELY ON THE HEELS OF STATE/AID TEAM AND U.S. ADB DIRECTOR VISITS. IN FACT, OUR COLLEAGUES HERE IN NEW ZEALAND FOREIGN MINISTRY JUST TODAY ADVISED AGAINST INNUNDATING ISLANDS WITH TOO MANY OFFICIAL VISITORS AT THIS TIME.

3. DECISION REGARDING FIJI VISIT IS PRIMARILY FOR SUVA TO MAKE. I WOULD, HOWEVER, LIKE YOU, URGE CAUTIOUS APPROACH WITH DEPARTMENT SOUNDING OUT BULLION IN ADVANCE OF CONTACTS HE WILL BE MAKING IN FIJI. DEPENDING ON NATURE OF HIS BUSINESS, EVEN IF TRIP APPROVED, SUVA MAY WISH TO ACCOMPANY BULLION ON CALLS TO KEEP US AWARE OF HIS CONVERSATIONS. SELDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PL 480, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), VISITS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 18-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977WELLIN00196
Document Source: Conditional Conditions (Conditional Conditional Conditiona

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770017-1115

Format: TEL From: WELLINGTON **Handling Restrictions:**

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770139/aaaabiex.tel

Line Count: 71 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5dfaa2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ACTION EA Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY Reference: 77 STATE 10555

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3564280 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: AID TEAM VISIT TO SOUTH PACIFIC: TRAVEL OF AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL JAMES BULLION

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, OTRA, XP, US, AGR, (IMUS, RICHARD H), (BULLION, JAMES)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5dfaa2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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